



## ROCKY MOUNTAIN AREA COORDINATION CENTER

Bureau of Indian Affairs (Southwest, Rocky Mountain and Great Plains Regions)

Bureau of Land Management (Colorado and Wyoming)

National Park Service (Intermountain and Midwest Regions)

Fish and Wildlife Service (Mountain/Prairie Region)

Forest Service (Rocky Mountain Region)

State Agencies in Colorado, Wyoming, South Dakota, Nebraska and Kansas

For Immediate Release

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### **“One Less Spark, One Less Wildfire” Campaign being introduced in Colorado, Wyoming, South Dakota, Nebraska and Kansas**

**Lakewood, CO; July 1, 2015** – The Rocky Mountain Area Coordinating Group and the Rocky Mountain Coordination Center announce the “One Less Spark, One Less Wildfire” campaign, a coordinated fire prevention approach to reduce human-caused wildfires in the Rocky Mountain Area—Colorado, Wyoming, South Dakota, Nebraska and Kansas.

The campaign consists of signs, posters, banners, billboards, social media, public service announcements with the slogan “One Less Spark, One Less Wildfire.”

Most wildfires are caused from escaped debris burning, sparks thrown from chains dragging behind vehicles on roadways, farm and construction equipment, lawnmowers, chainsaws, ATVs, target shooting and unattended campfires. Studies have proven that fire prevention education is beneficial in reducing or eliminating fire suppression costs, property damage, damage to natural and cultural resources and large-scale evacuations.

Citizens have the responsibility to prevent human-caused wildfires. The campaign products offer precautionary tips to reduce unwanted wildfires. To reduce human-caused wildfires, please consider the following:

- Fireworks are never allowed on state managed or federal public lands. Smaller, more innocent devices like sparklers, as well as exploding targets and larger combustible devices can start fires. Be careful when using fireworks on private land due to the high potential of causing wildfires.
- Before going camping, learn of any fire restrictions in place and never leave a campfire unattended. Build campfires in cleared open areas, and keep water and a shovel nearby. Make sure campfires are cool to the touch before leaving the area.
- When smoking, always dispose of cigarette debris in an ashtray and always smoke in approved areas.
- Avoid driving in tall grass. Exhaust particles, hot exhaust pipes and hot catalytic converters can start grass fires. Maintain proper tire pressure. Driving on exposed wheel rims can throw sparks.
- Sparks from lawnmowers, dragging chains, exhaust from ATV's and motorcycles can start grass fires. Spark arresters are required on all recreational and portable gasoline-powered equipment.
- Before burning debris, obtain the required permits and stay mindful of current weather conditions.

Fire restrictions may be in effect across Colorado, Kansas, Nebraska, South Dakota and Wyoming. Fire restriction information can be found online at:

[http://fireweather.sc.egov.usda.gov/rmgacc/fire\\_restrictions.php](http://fireweather.sc.egov.usda.gov/rmgacc/fire_restrictions.php).

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FOR MORE INFORMATION:

<http://www.rmacc.info/>

#PREVENTWILDFIRE #ONELESSSPARK 

